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ARMS 10-20

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BY NICHOLAS DANILOFF

WASHINGTON (UPI) --ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SAID TODAY THEY HOPE RESUMED STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS (SALT) WITH THE SOVIET UNION WILL PRODUCE A COMPREHENSIVE ACCORD LIMITING ON A LONG-TERM BASIS A WIDE VARIETY OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, INCLUDING STRATEGIC BOMBERS.

THE OFFICIALS SAID IT WAS POSSIBLE THE NEXT ROUND OF TALKS MIGHT NEGOTIATE A REDUCTION IN THE NUMBERS OF LAND BASED AND SEABORNE NUCLEAR MISSILES WHICH BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND SOVIET UNION ARE CURRENTLY PERMITTED.

THE WHITE HOUSE ANNOUNCED THURSDAY THAT THE SECOND MAJOR ROUND OF SALT WILL START IN GENEVA NOV. 21. THE FIRST ROUND PRODUCED A TEMPORARY, FIVE-YEAR PACT RESTRICTING OFFENSIVE NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND A PERMANENT TREATY LIMITING ANTIBALLISTIC MISSILE INSTALLATIONS TO TWO IN EACH COUNTRY.

BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE GIVEN FORMAL APPROVAL TO THE TWO TREATIES.

THE TEMPORARY AGREEMENT ON OFFENSIVE WEAPONS IN NO WAY LIMITED THE 148 LONG RANGE BOMBERS WITH WHICH THE SOVIET UNION COULD STRIKE THE UNITED STATES OR THE 522 BOMBERS OF THE U.S. STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND WHICH COULD ATTACK THE SOVIET UNION.

ANOTHER ISSUE WHICH WENT UNSOLVED UNDER THE FIVE-YEAR INTERIM AGREEMENT ON STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE WEAPONS WAS THE PROBLEM OF CONTROLLING TECHNOLOGICAL IMPROVEMENTS.

UNDER THE TEMPORARY AGREEMENT, BOTH SIDES CAN CONTINUE TO IMPROVE THE WARHEADS OF THEIR MISSILES.

THE UNITED STATES IS CURRENTLY ENGAGING IN AN AGGRESSIVE PROGRAM OF INSTALLING MULTIPLE WARHEADS ON ITS STRATEGIC MISSILES TO OVERCOME THE ADVANTAGE WHICH THE SOVIET SIDE HAS IN NUMBERS OF MISSILES.

UNDER THE CURRENT AGREEMENT, THE UNITED STATES MAINTAINS 1,754 LANDBASED STRATEGIC MISSILES AND 655 SEABORNE MISSILES IN 41 SUBMARINES.

THE SOVIET UNION MAINTAINS 1,618 LAND-BASED MISSILES AND 747 SEABORNE MISSILES IN 56 SUBMARINES.

THE SOVIET UNION MAY ALSO SEEK TO NEGOTIATE A REDUCTION OR REMOVAL OF U.S. NUCLEAR FORCES STATIONED IN EUROPE.

HOWEVER, THE UNITED STATES FEELS THAT SUCH WEAPONS ARE DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE COMPLEX PROBLEM OF EUROPEAN SECURITY AND SHOULD MORE PROPERLY BE NEGOTIATED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK A CONFERENCE ON FORCE REDUCTIONS IN EUROPE. SUCH A CONFERENCE IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES, SOVIET UNION AND A NUMBER OF THEIR ALLIES IN 1973.

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U.S. Soviets Schedule 2d SALT Round

The United States and the Soviet Union announced yesterday that the second phase of the Strategic Arms Limitation talks will begin in Geneva Nov. 21.

Gerard C. Smith, director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, will head the American delegation to the talks as he did in the first negotiations, the White House announced.

The first round, which resulted in a treaty limiting defensive antiballistic weapons and a five-year agreement on offensive weapons, lasted from September, 1969, to May, 1972. The negotiations were held alternately in Helsinki and Vienna.

SALT II will be concerned only with offensive weapons, since the ABM treaty is not expected to be changed. The purpose is to replace the interim agreement on offensive weapons with a treaty further limiting the manufacture of nuclear missiles.

White House press secretary Ronald L. Ziegler said Geneva was picked because both the United States and the Soviet Union found it expensive and inconvenient to shift the negotiations back and forth between Helsinki and Vienna.

Agreement on the Nov. 21 date was reached Oct. 3, when Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko conferred here with President Nixon, Ziegler said.

The new negotiations will concern bombers carrying nuclear warheads, not covered by the interim agreement, and and and submarine-based nuclear weapons.

Officials hope that the next agreement will cover the number as well as the kinds of new weapons each country will be allowed to produce.

The new American delegation will be the same as the old except for one change, Ziegler said. Ambassador Graham Parsons has retired from the Foreign Service and will be replaced.

The other members are Philip J. Farley, deputy director of the arms control agency, Lt. Gen. Royal Allison, representing the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Paul H. Nitze, an adviser to the Defense Department.